Cooperative Societies Act, 1972 and the Rules framed thereunder, it is the duty of a Cooperative Society to conduct the election annually. RCS has reported that as per their records and information provided by the Society, the said Society has been conducting elections regularly for the last three years. The Society has, however, sought a stay order from the Delhi High Court on the order dated 12.5.98 of the RCS appointing an Election Officer to hold the election of the society. The matter is now sub-judice.

(b) As per the information furnished by the Society to RCS the details are as under:

Election Year	Post	Number of members voted	
		For elected candidates	For non-elected candidates
1996	Vice President (2 Posts)	86	7
		86	21
			70
			70
	Members Managing Committee (3 Posts)	92	82
		96	86
		118	—
1997	President (1 Post)	120	71
			4
	Members	103	67
	Managing Committee (3 posts including one post reserved for a woman member who was elected unopposed)	95	88
1998	Members	109	50
	Managing Committee (2 posts) including one reserved for woman member who was elected unopposed)	—	14

(c) None of the members of the Society have informed the Society with regard to the sale of their plot and therefore, only the members whose membership is intact participated in the election.

(d) RCS has informed that any dispute relating to the election of a Cooperative Society is a subject matter of arbitration under section 60/61 of the DCS Act 1972. As per the RCS's records in the vacant post no arbitration case relating to election has been filed with reference to this Society.

Basic amenities for Urban Population

910. DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD: Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made any assessment of the expected average increase in the Urban population in the country by the end of the Ninth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the details of the assessment;

(c) whether the basic amenities are likely to become insufficient by 2000 AD because of increase in urban population;

(d) if so, whether Government have formulated any scheme to augment the existing system of drinking water, sanitation, housing, roads etc.; and

(e) the total amount likely to be spent thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A Technical Group on Population Projections constituted by the Planning Commission, under the Chairmanship of the Registrar General of India, made a population projection for India from 1996 to 2016. It submitted its report in August, 1996. The details are as under:—

Estimated Population, India — 1997 and 2002

(in thousands)

Year	Total	Rural	Urban
1997	949878	688327	261551
2002	1027607	728748	298859

(c) and (d) It has been estimated by the Working Group on Urban Water Supply and Sanitation Sector for Ninth Five Year Plan (1997—2002) that 85% of urban population have access to safe drinking water and 49% of population have access to hygienic sanitation facilities.

Water supply, sanitation and housing being State subjects, it is primarily the responsibility of the State Government to provide, operate, maintain, etc. these facilities.

It has been the endeavour of the Central Govt. to assist the State Governments to achieve the objective of providing these facilities to all. The State Government are being assisted to improve infrastructure facilities in the urban areas through the Centrally sponsored schemes of the Accelerated Urban Water Supply Programme (AUWSP), the Low Cost Sanitation (LCS), Integrated Development of Small & Medium Towns (IDSMT) AND THE Mega-City Scheme.

Apart from this, the Housing & Urban Development Corporation (HUDCO) is also providing funds for development of urban infrastructure facilities and has so far financed 629 infrastructure schemes with the project cost of Rs. 10505.70 crores involving loan component of Rs. 5492.55 crores.

(e) The sectoral allocations for the 9th Five Year Plan have not been finalised by the Planning Commission.

LRTS for Hyderabad and Visakhapatnam

911. DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD: Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Andhra Pradesh has requested Government to advise about the sources for funding the preparation of detailed budget report for Light Rail Transit Service (LRTS) for Hyderabad and Visakhapatnam; and

(b) if so, the response of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Proposal for funding of the preparation of Detailed Project Report (DPR) for Light Rail Transit System in Hyderabad only has been received. The issue had been discussed on 15.6.98 with representatives of Government of Andhra Pradesh by this Ministry. After discussions, it was decided that Govt. of Andhra Pradesh will prepare a proposal for seeking external grant for the proposed study. Any shortfall in the requirement of funds will be shared equally by the constituents of Urban